

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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CIRCULAR 765

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MB

AND CONSULAR

ACTION: CIRCULAR TO ALL DIPLOMATIC/POSTS

VIEWED BY Jim DATE 9/19/88
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Deptel Circular 730

JOINT STATE-DEFENSE MESSAGE.

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This circular prescribes the procedure to be followed in connection with the issuance of clearances to vessels departing from foreign ports destined for the quarantine areas. For the purposes of this instruction the quarantine area encompasses the waters within 500 miles of Cuba.

In connection with the quarantine of shipments of offensive weapons and associated materiel to Cuba declared by the President on October 23, 1962, the United States has instituted a clearance system to be administered in foreign ports through consular officers, assisted as required by military attaches, and in the United States by customs officers. The purpose of this system is to avoid unnecessary delays and other difficulties arising out of the stoppage, inspection, and possible diversion of vessels in the quarantine area.

This system is applicable to two categories of foreign vessels; those which transit the quarantine area destined for a non-Cuban port, and those destined for a Cuban port.

With respect to vessels destined for a non-Cuban port, the ship's agent or other officer may submit the information required on the Notice of Transit

Drafted by: L:L/EUR:JTripp:jed 10/25/62

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

C - Mr. Alexis Johnson

SCA:Ellooreg
Navy(JAG):Pwohl

Clearances:

SCA - Mr. Schwartz
O - Mr. Orrick
L - Mr. Chaves

G/M - Mr. Kitchen
OSI/GC - Mr. Foran
Navy(JAG) - Admiral Powers

S/S - J. T. Rogers
Treasury - Mr. McIntyre

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NOTICE OF TRANSIT

1. Name, nationality and type of vessel _____
2. Name and address of owner _____
3. Name and address of charterer (if chartered)
above-defined _____
4. Port of departure for _____ area _____
5. Proposed date of departure _____
6. Port of destination _____
7. Estimated date arrival _____

Signature _____

Date _____

US

US
Timely receipt of the above information by a consular officer will facilitate the movement of this vessel through the quarantine area. END QUOTE

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With respect to a foreign vessel whose next port of call is Cuba, an owner, charterer, master or agent may apply to the nearest Consulate for a clearance certificate (CLEARCERT), set forth below. Upon inspection of the ship by an individual ~~authorized~~ ~~XXXXXXXX~~ by a service attache and a determination by him that no offensive weapons or associated materiel, as defined in the Proclamation or designated by the Secretary of Defense pursuant thereto, are on board, a consular officer, or if no such officer is available at the port, the designee of the service attache on behalf of the consular officer may approve the application. The CLEARCERTS may be issued to all vessels meeting the foregoing requirement including Sino-Soviet bloc vessels, i.e., vessels flying the ~~XXXX~~ flags of Red China, Outer Mongolia, North Korea, North Vietnam, East Germany, U.S.S.R., Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania and Czechoslovakia and vessels chartered by them.

With respect to non-Sino-Soviet bloc vessels, a CLEARCERT may be issued on the basis of a minimal inspection if the completed application indicates that no offensive weapons or associated materiel are on board and if no suspicious circumstances exist. When suspicious circumstances exist, and in the case of all Sino-Soviet bloc vessels, a more detailed inspection of the cargo will be made. Detailed instructions for military attaches will follow separately.

QUOTE

CLEARCERT

Application for and Approval of Clearcert
for Foreign-Flag Vessel

Port:

Date:

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I hereby apply for the issuance of a CLEARCERT for the vessel described below, which is now in this port. I certify that the next port of call is Cuba, and that the information given below is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, correct, and complete.

1. Nationality of vessel _____
2. Name and type of vessel _____
3. Name and address of owner _____
4. Name and address of charterer (if chartered) _____
5. Proposed date of departure _____
6. Port of destination _____
7. Estimated date of arrival _____
8. Copy of manifest attached _____

(Signed)

(Owner) (Charterer) (Master) (Agent)
(Strike out inapplicable titles)

APPROVAL

The CLEARCERT requested herein is hereby approved and issued to the vessel named on the voyage described therein.

(Signed)

American Consular Officer

(८)

Attache for

American Consular Officer

END COVER

Reporting instructions for service attaches will be provided by the Director of Naval Intelligence.

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Since the clearance system is designed to ameliorate possible hardships to shipping, addressee posts should establish the system as rapidly as possible. In order to achieve this goal the Department is concurrently issuing a press release, Diplomatic Missions and appropriate consular posts reporting directly to and a notice to mariners will be issued. ~~Addressee posts~~ are requested to bring Dept the clearance procedure to the attention of their respective government authorities in such manner and at such level as the post concerned considers appropriate and, in the absence of objection by those authorities, to establish the procedure, including notification to shipping circles, in a manner appropriate to the circumstances of the post. In this regard a statement along the following lines may be made:

QUOTE In connection with the quarantine of shipments of offensive weapons and associated materiel to Cuba proclaimed by the President of the United States on October 23, 1962, a clearance system has been instituted to avoid unnecessary delays and other difficulties arising out of the stoppage, inspection or possible diversion of ships. This system applies to foreign vessels that transit the quarantine area destined for a non-Cuban port and those destined for a Cuban port with cargo which ~~contains~~ contains no offensive weapons or associated materiel. It is available to vessels of any flag including those of the Sino-Soviet bloc. A clearance may be obtained at the last port of call before entering the quarantine area from an American consular officer or his authorized representative for the purpose of facilitating the movement of vessels. In unusual circumstances it may be necessary to stop, inspect or divert a ship despite the fact that it has a clearance. Clearance forms are available at American Embassies and Consulates.

END

RUSK

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